

III. Remarks

Status of the Claims

Claims 10, 16 and 18 are amended. Claims 10-13, 16, 18, 27 and 28 are presented for reconsideration.

The claims of this application are amended to clarify what is intended to be protected in this application. No new matter is presented. The amendments to the claims are not intended to be limiting, are not made for reasons related to patentability, and should not be interpreted to raise issues of estoppel.

The Office Action and Responsive Remarks

Applicant has considered the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action mailed March 17, 2008 and responds in detail below. The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the claim rejections in view of the newly made claim amendments and the following remarks.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is traversed on the following grounds:

Independent claim 10 has now been amended to define a camera card comprising a card shaped body having a PCMCIA interface for connection to a host computer through a PCMCAI compatible receiving slot. The body contains an optical unit with its optics external to the host device. The reference to first and second portions are removed and the language now conforms to the specification, in particular the description of camera unit 14 contained on pages 6 and 7 of the specification. Applicant submits that these amendments fully remedy the rejection by the Examiner based on 35USC112.

Applicant submits that, in view of the amendments to the claims, the claimed subject matter is fully described so that a person skilled in the art can understand that the

claimed subject matter was in possession of the applicant at the time the application was filed. Accordingly, the requirement for written description, under 35 USC112, first paragraph is fully met

Claims 10 - 14, 16 - 20 and 22 - 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on the cited reference Parulski, US Patent No. 5,475,411. This rejection is traversed on the following grounds:

The cited reference Parulski fails to disclose each and every limitation of the claims of this application. It is well settled that a claim is anticipated, "only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." (See CHISOLM, Federal Circuit Guide, Pg. 1221). In Claim 10, as amended, states:

"a substantially card shaped body having an interface conforming to the standard for PCMCIA circuit cards and adapted to be received in a PCMCIA compatible card slot of said host computer,

a optical unit contained in the body comprising optics for acquiring image data and further comprising a processing unit for connection to a processor of the host computer through the interface for transmitting said acquired image data to the host computer; and

wherein the optics are external to the host computer when said camera card is in use."

The combined teaching fails to disclose or suggest these features.

Parulski concerns the connection of a camera to a host computer, the camera having a use that is independent of the host computer. This is in stark contrast to the present claimed invention in which the camera card can only be used to obtain image information when used in association with a host computer.

The extender board 24 of Parulski is not a circuit card. It merely acts as a conduit or adapter for connecting full function camera 20 to portable computer 10. Although referred to as a "structural element 22", it does not contain an optical unit or any optical image processing capability. Although extender board 24 fits into a PCMCIA card slot, it provides no further function for camera 20. Clearly this is a two part device and as such does not disclose or suggest the integral optical card of the claimed subject matter of this application. To emphasize this distinguishing feature, in the preferred embodiment extender board 24 is removable from camera 20. The circuit card of this invention integrates the elements of a camera function into the circuit card itself. (see column 3, lines 52-63) This is not taught by the cited reference Parulski.

Further Applicant maintains that the camera disclosed in Parulski is simply connected to the host computer by means of an extender board 24, which may have electrical connections compatible with the PCMCIA standard. However, unlike the present claimed invention, Parulski does not envisage permanent adaptation of a PCMCIA type card to provide the functionality of a camera only when in association with a host computer. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the skilled person would not receive any direction or motivation to adapt PCMCIA cards to arrive at the present claimed invention. The cited reference Parulski does not disclose or suggest the incorporation of an optical unit into a PCMCIA card to collect image data for use by a host computer in providing a camera application for the host computer.

Furthermore, the Examiner should appreciate that Parulski modifies a camera and provides a connector for a camera rather than actually modifying a PCMCIA card to incorporate a camera. i.e. Parulski's teachings are not focused on PCMCIA cards (as presently claimed), but concern adaptation of a conventional camera for use in association with a host computer. Thus, unlike the present invention, Parulski does not provide a novel and inventive PCMCIA card.

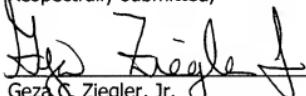
Accordingly the reference Parulski fails to support the rejection of the claimed subject matter of claim 10.

These grounds apply equally to the rejected dependent claims, all of which, by dependency, have the limitations described in independent claim 10.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date

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